

**§ 1310.12 Required use of School Buses or Allowable Alternate Vehicles.**

(a) Effective January 18, 2006, each agency providing transportation services must ensure that children enrolled in its program are transported in school buses or allowable alternate vehicles that are equipped for use of height- and weight-appropriate child restraint systems, and that have reverse beepers. As provided in 45 CFR 1310.2(a), this paragraph does not apply to transportation services to children served under the home-based option for Head Start and Early Head Start.

(b) Effective February 20, 2001, each Head Start and Early Head Start agency receiving permission from the responsible HHS official to purchase a vehicle with grant funds for use in providing transportation services to children in its program or a delegate agency's program must ensure that the funds are used to purchase a vehicle that is either a school bus or an allowable alternate vehicle and is equipped

(1) for use of height- and weight-appropriate child restraint systems; and

(2) with a reverse beeper.

(c) As provided in 45 CFR 1310.2(a), paragraph (b) of this section does not apply to vehicles purchased for use in transporting children served under the home-based option for Head Start and Early Head Start.

EFFECTIVE DATE NOTE: At 66 FR 5311, Jan. 18, 2001, § 1310.12 paragraph (a) was added, effective January 18, 2006.

**§ 1310.13 Maintenance of vehicles.**

Each agency providing transportation services must ensure that vehicles used to provide such services are maintained in safe operating condition at all times. The organization operating the vehicle must establish and implement procedures for:

(a) a thorough safety inspection of each vehicle on at least an annual basis through an inspection program licensed or operated by the State;

(b) systematic preventive maintenance on such vehicles; and

(c) daily pre-trip inspection of the vehicles by the driver.

**§ 1310.14 Inspection of new vehicles at the time of delivery.**

Each agency providing transportation services must ensure that bid announcements for school buses and allowable alternate vehicles for use in transporting children in its program include the correct specifications and a clear statement of the vehicle's intended use. Such agencies must ensure that there is a prescribed procedure for examining such vehicles at the time of delivery to ensure that they are equipped in accordance with the bid specifications and that the manufacturer's certification of compliance with the applicable FMVSS is included with the vehicle.

**§ 1310.15 Operation of vehicles.**

Each agency providing transportation services, either directly or through an arrangement with another organization or an individual, to children enrolled in its program must ensure that:

(a) On a vehicle equipped for use of such devices, any child weighing 50 pounds or less is seated in a child restraint system appropriate to the height and weight of the child while the vehicle is in motion.

(b) Baggage and other items transported in the passenger compartment are properly stored and secured and the aisles remain clear and the doors and emergency exits remain unobstructed at all times.

(c) Effective January 20, 2004, there is at least one bus monitor on board at all times, with additional bus monitors provided as necessary, such as when needed to accommodate the needs of children with disabilities. As provided in 45 CFR 1310.2(a), this paragraph does not apply to transportation services to children served under the home-based option for Head Start and Early Head Start.

(d) Except for bus monitors who are assisting children, all vehicle occupants must be seated and wearing height- and weight-appropriate safety restraints while the vehicle is in motion.

EFFECTIVE DATE NOTE: At 66 FR 5311, Jan. 18, 2001, § 1310.15 paragraph (c) was added, effective January 20, 2004.